

GRAND JURY TO HUNT CITY HOME GRAFTERS

Scandal Too Deep to
Stop Now With Evi-
dence in Hand.

MINITREE FOLKES GOING ON TRAIL

Public Demanding More Than
Dismissal of Lovenstein.
Hobson Has Other Proof
of a Startling Nature.
Great Flurry in
City Hall.

There is a wide difference of opinion as to what course will be taken in the matter of tampering with City Home bids, now that the charge has been proved and officially established. Having performed its duty, the Committee on Relief of the Poor will submit a report to that effect to Council. Whether that body decides to push the inquiry further or let it drop with the dismissal of Mr. Lovenstein, will have little effect upon Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes, for he declared yesterday that he would bring it to the attention of the grand jury in September with a strong plea for a judicial investigation.

Councilman Graham B. Hobson is prepared to add additional testimony before the grand jury, the idea being to prove that there was a conspiracy to defraud the city, and while this charge will be more difficult to prove than the mere fact that bids were opened, there is enough evidence still in the dark to warrant incidents and probable conviction.

Will Assist Grand Jury.
"I will assist the grand jury in every possible way," said Mr. Hobson yesterday. "When we have shown that wrong has been committed it is unfair to let it drop there. Unquestionably there was a motive, a reason for opening the bids. Some of the policy that that unlawful act. The statement that the city was not the loser by this transaction is not tenable. I am firmly convinced that the same thing was done a year ago, if not on occasions previous to that, and we might as well go deeper and bring all the ugly features to light."

No Need of Special Session.
While he is prepared to take up the findings of the committee in an official way Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes is not impressed with the demand that the grand jury be called in special session. It will assemble on September 3rd, and he is now away from the city after a long and tedious rush of work.

Moreover, the report must go to Council for action one way or the other, and in the meantime it is more than possible that additional testimony may be secured which will be valuable in placing the guilt. It may be accepted without question, however, that Mr. Folkes will proceed, and before the case is finally wiped from the docket the event will be as sensational as the dismissal of an official.

Must Not Stop Now.
Not all the members of Council believe that the investigation has ended. Many who express the opinion that no further effort will be made to gather the truth content that such a policy would be wrong, and they show that had the bids been opened after being transmitted through the United States mail the government would have been unwilling to drop it in view of the fact that the city should be equally as fearless, regardless of who might be hurt by subsequent developments and regardless of good names that might be dragged in the mire.

City Stood to Lose.
The claim that the city did not stand to lose by the conduct of men who opened the bids is ridiculous on its face. This theory is easily upset. If the bidder, for instance, who was to profit by the secret information, had been in position to sell the city wood at \$5 a cord, and make money on the deal, and should then change his bid to \$8 after finding that \$5 was the lowest bid of his competitors, the city would certainly lose by such change, which could not have happened except as a result of crooked work. True, as the difference might not have amounted to \$1 a cord, but it would have amounted to something, and as it is, the City Home saved \$125 by throwing out the bids which had been tampered with and awarding contracts on others which had not.

Grafters Are Terrified.
Aside from the wholesome effect which this inquiry will have, it has convinced the public that graft exists here, far greater, perhaps, than that already disclosed. It will mean that the searchlight will be thrown on other dark places, it will force heads of departments to exercise more care and caution. An honest official is a thing of beauty and a joy forever, but if he is easily fooled by grafters working under him, the result, for as the city is concerned, is practically the same. The newspapers heretofore have not paraded the fact that some of Mr. Hobson's associates have endeavored to make light of his charges, and there is one story bearing directly on this point which came dangerously near publicity. This was to have been laid bare by a witness.

By his fearless and aggressive methods Mr. Hobson made himself master of the situation, and he will have the undivided support of the two branches of Council should he find it necessary again to go after the grafters and crooks.

He conducted the examination without any display of pyrotechnics and without attempt or desire to bring glory to his own head. He merely did his duty, and was not afraid to speak out in meeting after he had verified

(Continued on Third Page.)

FIGHT OF HIS LIFE FOR VIRGINIA SENATE



MR. AUBREY E. STRODE.

State Senator Aubrey E. Strode made the fight of his life yesterday for nomination to re-election. He was opposed by Mr. W. K. Allen, of Amherst. The result of the primary is still in doubt.

HON. A. E. STRODE WINS IN A WALK

Amherst Senator Renominated
Over Allen by Nearly
Three Hundred.

BITTER CONTEST IS ENDED

Home of Estes Family Gives Al-
len Only Slight Lead.
House Contests.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
LYNCHBURG, VA., August 24.—With all but one small precinct in Amherst county heard from in the senatorial primary in the Nineteenth Senatorial District to-day, State Senator Aubrey E. Strode has a majority for renomination over W. K. Allen, of 306 votes. The missing precinct, Wright's Shop, will not cast over twenty-five votes, and it will probably give Strode a small majority.

Nine of the nineteen precincts in Nelson county, gave Allen a majority over Strode of three votes. It is believed the remaining precincts will increase Allen's majority to about fifty in Nelson county.

Should Nelson county, however, give Allen a majority of 100, which is hardly probable, Strode will have secured the nomination by about 200 majority.

There is no doubt about his return to the Senate to succeed himself.

Lovingston, where was expected that there would be bitter opposition to Strode because he was of counsel for Judge W. G. Loving in his trial for the killing of Theodore Estes, and which is the home of the Estes family, gave Allen a majority of only twenty-five votes.

The missing precincts in Nelson will not be heard from here, until Monday.

This election has been watched with probably more interest than any other in the State on account of the Loving-Estes case.

Amherst Courthouse, the home precinct of both Strode and Allen, gave Strode a majority of sixty-one. Lovettsville, Precinct in Amherst county, the old precinct of ex-Judge Loving, gave a majority of fifty-seven out of a vote of about one hundred to Strode.

For the county officers, Sheriff John P. Beard is re-elected over R. H. Drummond, by a majority ranging from two to three hundred.

Commonwealth's Attorney O. I. Evans and Treasurer H. C. Joyner were renominated without opposition.

The fight in the court district for election of superior was very close. A. H. Moore defeated Richardson at this precinct, with a majority of nine, and appeared to be re-elected by a small majority. The executive committee candidates who were run by ex-Judge Campbell, appear to have gone down in the general landslide.

At this precinct the majorities against them and in favor of the other committeemen ranges from eighty to one hundred.

The indications are that Dr. H. S. Myers has defeated Dr. H. Don Scott, the present incumbent for the House of Delegates, by a majority from two to three hundred. Dr. Scott carried his home district of Elton by a good majority.

AMHERST SENATOR IS POPULAR HERE

Young Man of Fine Ability and
a Faithful Repre-
sentative.

The renomination of Senator Aubrey E. Strode by apparently a handsome majority is looked upon by his friends here as a signal triumph, as he was bitterly fought by those opposed to him in both counties. It has all along been claimed by his friends and conceded by his opponents that Senator Strode would carry Amherst, but it was thought at one time that his competitor, Mr. W. K. Allen, would carry Nelson by enough majority to make the result exceedingly close and uncomfortable; but if Strode has lost Nelson at all, it is by less than one hundred votes. His majority in Amherst will probably reach 325, and it is safe to place his lead over Allen in the district at something like 250.

Aubrey E. Strode is one of the most scholarly and distinguished young men in the Virginia Legislature, and he made a splendid record as a member of the last Senate. He is a man of fine presence and an orator of recognized ability, and he has a great many friends in this city, both in and out of public life. Mr. Strode is now rounding out his first term in the Senate, having defeated Hon. Bland Massie, of Nelson, for the honor two years ago by a majority of about fifteen.

SPEAKER JUSTICE COMPUTES COSTS

His Deduction Character-
ized by Mr. Spencer as
"Wildest Speculation."

LAWYER TRIES TO GET AT EARNINGS

But Mr. Spencer States That
It Is Impossible to Estimate
Accurately the Cost of
a Particular Train
on Any Partic-
ular Day.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 24.—With some slight assistance in the form of guesses by Vice-President H. B. Spencer, of the Southern Railway, Speaker Justice, of the North Carolina Legislature, to-day computed that it costs only \$54.37 to operate a passenger train of two coaches and a baggage car on the North Carolina Railroad from Goldsboro to Greensboro, a distance of 131 miles. By the same method of deduction Mr. Justice calculated that the revenue from this train would amount to \$390, and that the difference would be the profit to the railroad. He took the position that in this manner the cost of operation and the revenues of the Southern Railway system could be computed to refute the testimony given yesterday by Mr. Spencer that it cost an average of \$1.03 per train mile to operate a passenger train in the State, and that the revenues from the train would average \$1.25 per train mile, including mail and express.

This was the feature to-day of the hearing in the North Carolina rate case before Special Master Walter A. Montgomery, appointed by United States Circuit Judge Fritchard to take evidence.

Cost of Labor.
Mr. Justice began his examination by asking the cost of labor, supplies on the train, and all such expenses that could be approximated, but there were many expenses involved on which the witness had no knowledge, and the Speaker incorporated in the list a number of personal guesses. At the conclusion Mr. Justice characterized the deduction "as the wildest speculation."

When asked of operating had been estimated Mr. Justice calculated that such a train would carry an average of 100 passengers, half of which would be first-class, and half second-class, and that these would pay an average fare of \$3.50 under the old rate, or a total of \$350 for the trip.

Mr. Justice asked the witness if he did not know that it had been shown that the Southern makes more than 200 per cent on its passenger business.

Mr. Spencer replied that the result was "merely a numerical calculation on assumed figures."

At the afternoon session, Mr. Spencer was questioned at length concerning his opinion of comparative rates in the North Carolina, general counsel for the Southern, then obtained a statement from the witness to the effect that while it is possible to compute the average cost per mile of operating all passenger trains, it is impossible to accurately subdivide the expenses so as to fix the cost per mile of operating a particular train on a particular day. The hearing was then adjourned until Monday.

STATE RETIRES FROM THE CASE

Alabama Attorney-General An-
nounces He Will Not Ap-
pear in Present Legislation.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., August 24.—At the hearing of injunctions against sheriffs, solicitors and other State officials to prevent them from interfering with the operation of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, in the rate litigation before Judge T. G. Jones, Jr., the United States court to-day, Attorney-General A. M. Garber, on behalf of the State, announced that counsel for the State had decided not to appear in the hearing. In giving the reason, Mr. Garber said that two days after the granting of the original injunction by the court the presiding judge issued an elaborate opinion in the case before counsel for the State had been given opportunity to argue the question involved, which action, in so far as the Attorney-General knew, was unprecedented, and which opinion the Attorney-General and counsel for the State considered final on the part of the court.

Attorney-General Garber further stated that as this opinion had been printed in pamphlet form and distributed throughout the State, any argument on the part of the State's counsel at this time would be utterly futile. Colonel Garber then withdrew from the courtroom and the hearing proceeded.

Neither Colonel Garber nor any attorney for the State was present when the hearing began, and Judge Jones had a telephone message sent to the Attorney-General, who later appeared and made his statement.

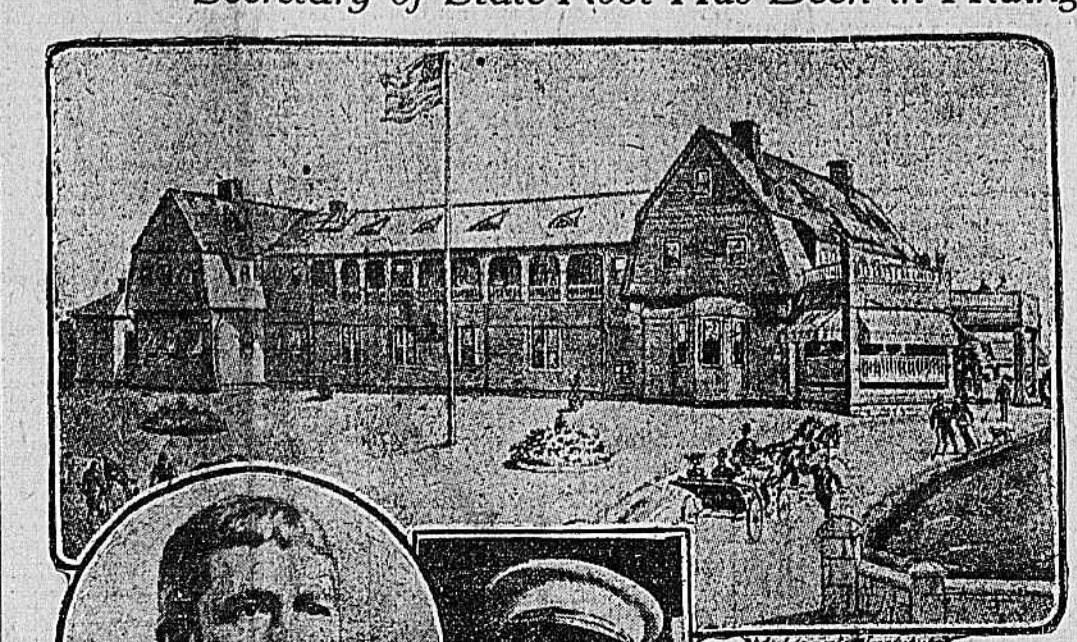
FATAL FIRE IN LARGE HOSPITAL

Women Nurses Do Heroic
Service in Rescuing the
Patients.

MIDDLETOWN, N. H., August 24.—Fire, originating from a sterilizing apparatus, broke out in the Thrall Hospital here to-night. Arthur Thornley, an orderly in the hospital, was so badly burned that he will die. He fell to the floor unconscious, and was rescued by Dr. William Morgan. A dozen women nurses did heroic work in fighting the fire and rescuing the twenty-six patients who were in the building. Most of whom were removed through the windows on the ladders of the fire department.

The interior of the building was badly damaged.

Muldoon Sanitarium at White Plains Where Secretary of State Root Has Been in Hiding



William Muldoon.

CENTRALIZATION, SAYS W. J. BRYAN

The Nebraska Dissects Recent
Address of President
Roosevelt.

HIS INCORPORATION PLAN As Protecting the Railroads

From Wise Legislation.

LINCOLN, NEB., August 24.—William J. Bryan, in commenting on President Roosevelt's last speech, said:

"The President has at last disclosed his scheme for centralization, at which he has hinted in former speeches. In his Provincetown, Mass., address he proposes the national incorporation of railroads and other corporations engaged in interstate commerce."

"Here is the secret; it is out at last. The States are annoying the corporations and the corporations demand Federal protection from State legislation. The President thinks that action is most pressing as regards those corporations which, because they are common carriers, exercise a quasi-public function."

"The States have been enacting two-cent fare laws and laws reducing freight rates, and the railroad managers demand that they shall be relieved from further fear of such legislation. The President's Hamiltonian ideas make him an easy victim, and he yields to the entreaties of the railroads."

"If it was the public he sought to protect he would recommend Federal remedies, which would not interfere with State remedies; but it is the railroad, not the public, that demands the removal of authority to Washington."

"The Democrats can be depended upon to oppose with all their might this movement towards centralization. If any Democrat wavers, his constituents should look into his business relations and see whether he is under obligations to the railroads."

"Hamiltonian Republican like the President may honestly think that the farther the government is removed from the people, the better it will be; but a Jeffersonian Democrat will then be elected by the vote of the people at the coming fall election. It is generally understood that the judges of the State are very much averse to making these appointments of commissioners of the revenue, and will be glad if the petition for the writ of prohibition, as prayed for, will be granted."

Taft OPPOSES CONSTITUTION

Advices People of Oklahoma to
Reject Recently Drawn
Organic Law.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., August 24.—Secretary of War William H. Taft to-night, in Convention Hall, advised 10,000 hearers and all citizens of Oklahoma and Indian Territory to reject the Constitution recently adopted by the convention at Guthrie for the proposed new State of Oklahoma. He declared that the next session of Congress would pass a new enabling act. Secretary Taft explained that he was not here as the representative of President Roosevelt, and that the views he expressed were entirely his own, and in no sense should be regarded as inspired by the President. Secretary Taft discussed national issues along the same lines as in the Columbus, O., speech.

NITRO-GLYCERINE DESTROYS PLANT

Explosion of Three Tons
Kills Two and Injures
Many.

SEVERAL WOMEN AMONG INJURED

Terrific Shock of Explosion Pre-
cipitates Panic in Canning
Factory and Many Are
Trampled—Large Plant
Will Be Totally
Destroyed.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., August 24.—There were three explosions at the Dupont De Nemours Powder Works, at Solorante, on the bay shore, sixteen miles north of Berkeley, to-day. Two persons are known to be dead, and many are believed to have been injured. The whole works are in flames.

The dead:
RICHARD THOMPSON.
WILLIAM DOANE.

These two men were working in the mixing-house when three tons of nitro-glycerine exploded, destroying the washhouse, the nitro-glycerine mixing-house and the acid separating-house and a large acid tank.

Of the seven injured, six women, were taken to the Central Emergency Hospital. One whose name has not been ascertained is suffering from internal injuries and possibly a fracture of the skull. The other injured women include:

Rosa Angeloni, injured internally; Josephine Marinella, skull fractured; Mrs. Balloni, deep cuts on head; Teresa Quacca, internally injured, ribs broken; Mary Sabani, serious condition; result of shock, Mary Scardina, may die. Antonio Conzilia seems to be the only man severely injured.

The monetary loss is \$50,000.

Causes Big Panic.
The shocks of the explosions were felt in the cities all around the bay. When the 12,000 employees of the California Fruit Canners' Association, who work in the big establishment of the company in this city, felt the shocks, they thought there was an earthquake and rushed into the streets.

During the stampede a number of persons were thrown down and trampled upon. So far as known none was killed, but many were badly bruised. At least thirteen persons were severely hurt at the cannery panic.

During the efforts to get outside a few men drew knives and wounded several persons. Others jumped into a chute used to send boxed cans from the second floor of the establishment, and were landed in a heap at the bottom.

FOUR KILLED, AND MANY HURT

Passenger Train and Crowded
Excursion Train Crash
Head-On.

SAPULPA, I. T., August 24.—Four persons were killed and thirty injured this afternoon when the west-bound St. Louis and San Francisco passenger train and an east-bound passenger train, both loaded heavily with excursionists, collided near Sapulpa. The dead:

Chris Bentz, engineer, west-bound train.
W. C. Snood, fireman, east-bound train.
George Angers, Oklahoma City, fireman.
Unidentified man.

James Haner, fireman.
W. H. Bill, leg crushed and injured internally.

W. W. Walker, St. Joseph, Mo.
W. A. Cox, express messenger.
The wreck is said to have been due to the failure of the dispatcher at Sapulpa to issue orders to the east-bound train to take the siding at Redfork.

Both locomotives and baggage cars were wrecked. The wreckage caught fire and burned, but no bodies were cremated.

ROAD DISMISSES TRUSTED EMPLOYEE

Assistant Cashier at Bristol
Leaves—Books Are Now
Being Audited.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
BRISTOL, VA., August 24.—John Starbuck, a young man who has been highly esteemed in Bristol, has been dismissed from the service of the Southern Railway here as assistant cashier at the freight depot because of alleged irregularities in his accounts amounting, it is said, to several hundred dollars.

Starbuck, who has been prominent socially, has disappeared since receiving notice of his discharge. A traveling auditor of the company is investigating the books and has progressed far enough to confirm the reported irregularities.

Starbuck was prominent in the State militia of Tennessee, and had recently been elected second lieutenant of the Cox Light Infantry here.

YERKES—MIZNER
DIVORCE DECREE.

NEW YORK, August 24.—Justice Guy, of the Supreme Court, to-day signed a final decree of divorce in the suit brought by Mrs. Mary Adelaide Yerkes-Mizner for an absolute divorce from Wilson Mizner. By the decree Mrs. Mizner is permitted to resume the name of Yerkes, and she may marry again. Mr. Mizner is forbidden to marry during the lifetime of his former wife. Mrs. Yerkes was the wife of the late Charles T. Yerkes, the Chicago traction promoter.

President Duffy Resigns.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., August 24.—President George W. Duffy, of the Board of Public Works, to-day tendered his resignation to Mayor Taylor. Michael Casey, president of the local teamsters' union, was appointed as Duffy's successor.